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## COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-6035

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

September 20, 2001

### SUPPORT OUR MILITARY RETIREES

*Fulfill the Promise of TRICARE For Life*

Vote **YES** on HR 2586

### The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002

IKE SKELTON, MISSOURI  
NORMAN SISISKY, VIRGINIA  
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SOLOMON P. ORTIZ, TEXAS  
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JOHN B. LARSON, CONNECTICUT  
SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA  
JAMES R. LANGEVIN, RHODE ISLAND

ROBERT S. RANGEL, STAFF DIRECTOR

Dear Colleague,

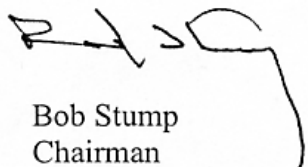
In the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress we made great strides toward keeping the promise of lifetime health care for military retirees and their family members. H.R. 2586 continues that commitment by **fully** funding TRICARE For Life in fiscal year 2002. In fact, H.R. 2586 increases TRICARE funding by \$6.0 billion over last year's level.

H.R. 2586 also significantly improves military health care by completely overhauling the TRICARE skilled nursing care benefit for those patients who do not need hospital care, but require more complex care than the family can provide in the home. For the first time, active duty families will be authorized to obtain assistance for some activities-of-daily-living related to the care of severely disabled family members, thereby relieving some of the tremendous strain put on the families of active duty members during deployments or prolonged training evolutions. The skilled nursing benefit has also been redesigned to work in concert with Medicare to provide a much-improved overall benefit for our military retirees and their family members.

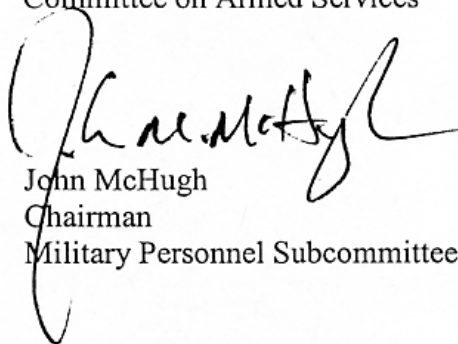
H.R. 2586 also significantly improves patients' rights to choose where they want to receive health care by removing most prior authorization for care requirements.

Join us in continuing the great work we started last year by voting **YES** on HR 2586.

Sincerely,



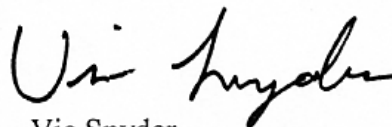
Bob Stump  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services



John McHugh  
Chairman  
Military Personnel Subcommittee



Ike Skelton  
Ranking Democrat  
Committee on Armed Services



Vic Snyder  
Ranking Democrat  
Military Personnel Subcommittee